

From: Jessica Greathouse/R3/USEPA/US
Sent: 1/19/2012 4:07:24 PM
To: Jennie Saxe/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
CC:
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

Got it. Thanks!

Jessica H. Greathouse
State and Congressional Liaison
West Virginia/Western Pennsylvania
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
304.224.3181

----- Original Message -----

From: Jennie Saxe
Sent: 01/19/2012 03:46 PM EST
To: Jessica Greathouse
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

Press release hopefully coming soon...I'll bcc you when I send mine.
Jennie

From: Jessica Greathouse/R3/USEPA/US
To: Jennie Saxe/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Stacie Driscoll/R3/USEPA/US@EPA, "Jessica Greathouse" <greathouse.jessica@epa.gov>
Date: 01/19/2012 12:34 PM
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

I can't call in, but I'm happy to send to contacts when we're ready.

Jessica H. Greathouse
State and Congressional Liaison
West Virginia/Western Pennsylvania
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
304.224.3181

----- Original Message -----

From: Jennie Saxe
Sent: 01/19/2012 12:19 PM EST
To: Pamela Janifer
Cc: Stacie Driscoll; "Jessica Greathouse" <greathouse.jessica@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

Want to say 1pm? Also looping in Jessica for western PA members who might be interested in this situation.

Jennie Perey Saxe, Ph.D.
State/Congressional Liaison - Pennsylvania
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-5806
saxe.jennie@epa.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Pamela Janifer
Sent: 01/19/2012 12:17 PM EST
To: Jennie Saxe
Cc: Stacie Driscoll
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA
What time can you do a call?

From: Jennie Saxe/R3/USEPA/US
To: Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, "Laura Vaught" <Vaught.Laura@epamail.epa.gov>
Cc: Stacie Driscoll/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/19/2012 12:11 PM
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

I think we're looking to initiate contacts around 2pm today (maybe a little earlier, but not by much). Do you guys want to do a quick call to coordinate?

Thanks!

Jennie

Jennie Perey Saxe, Ph.D.
State/Congressional Liaison - Pennsylvania
U.S. EPA Region III
215-814-5806
saxe.jennie@epa.gov

----- Original Message -----

From: Pamela Janifer
Sent: 01/19/2012 11:27 AM EST
To: Jennie Saxe
Cc: Stacie Driscoll
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA
Sounds like a plan. This is great. Thanks

Pamela

From: Jennie Saxe/R3/USEPA/US
To: Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Stacie Driscoll/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/19/2012 11:23 AM
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

Hi Pamela -

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

I can let you know when that happens and share the press release with you. (It could happen today, but is not guaranteed.)

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

I'll keep you in the loop...this is a fluid situation.

Thanks!
Jennie

From: Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US
To: Stacie Driscoll/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Jennie Saxe/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/19/2012 11:14 AM
Subject: Dimock, PA

FYI -

Pamela

----- Forwarded by Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US on 01/19/2012 11:12 AM -----

From: Laura Vaught/DC/USEPA/US
To: Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Arvin Ganesan/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/19/2012 11:08 AM
Subject: Re: Dimock, PA

thanks - it sounds like the state was notified this morning of our action plan and that it is becoming public possibly even later today or maybe tomorrow.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

From: Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US
To: Arvin Ganesan/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Laura Vaught/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/18/2012 09:54 AM
Subject: Dimock, PA

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Elizabeth requested a briefing last week.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

Wanted to make folks aware of requests for briefing.

Pamela Janifer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mailcode: 1301A

Washington, D.C. 20460
202.564.6969
202.501.1549 - FAX
janifer.pamela@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US on 01/18/2012 09:26 AM -----

From: "Fox, Elizabeth (EPW)" <Elizabeth_Fox@epw.senate.gov>
To: Pamela Janifer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/17/2012 09:41 AM
Subject: Dimock, PA

It's really important that we get a briefing on this asap.

Thanks,

Elizabeth S. Fox
Professional Staff Member
Committee on Environment & Public Works
202-224-6176

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2012/01/13/national/a002456S34.DTL>

EPA chief criticizes Pa.'s DEP over water issues

By GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press

Friday, January 13, 2012

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/object/article?f=/n/a/2012/01/13/national/a002456S34.DTL&o=0&type=printable><http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/object/article?f=/n/a/2012/01/13/national/a002456S34.DTL&o=1&type=printable><http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/object/article?f=/n/a/2012/01/13/national/a002456S34.DTL&o=2&type=printable>(01-13) 13:20 PST
PHILADELPHIA (AP) --

The head of the federal Environmental Protection Agency says Pennsylvania officials aren't doing what they should to help people whose wells have been found to have been contaminated since natural gas drilling began in their area.

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson says federal regulators need more data to decide whether to ship water to residents in the northeast Pennsylvania village of Dimock (DIH'-muhk). About a dozen residents have filed a lawsuit claiming that the drilling caused contamination.

Jackson said at a news conference Friday in Philadelphia that it was "puzzling" that Pennsylvania's environmental protection secretary wrote her last week to criticize the EPA's knowledge of the situation.

She says his letter won't help people in Dimock.

THIS IS A BREAKING NEWS UPDATE. Check back soon for further information. AP's earlier story is below.

Residents of a small northeastern Pennsylvania town at the center of the political fight over natural gas drilling struck out Friday when they tried to take their complaints directly to the head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A handful of residents-turned-activists from Dimock joined about 50 environmental activists from neighboring communities and elsewhere to rally outside a conference at Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences on urban environmental issues, chanting, "Lisa Jackson, take some action!" Their hope was to find a kindred spirit in EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson and to ask her directly to have fresh water delivered to them.

But they didn't get the chance.

The moderator of the panel on which Jackson sat did not ask any of the Dimock-related questions that were submitted. And at the end of the session, Jackson did not respond when one activist shouted out a question. She also did not meet with any of the protesters who attempted to confront her afterward.

The Dimock residents among the protesters remained optimistic that Jackson will come to their aid — something they say state officials are refusing to do.

"We're here to make sure that she knows we appreciate that and putting a face to what's going on," said Julie Sautner, a Dimock resident whose well is contaminated.

A state investigation found that 18 wells in the Susquehanna County village were contaminated after natural gas drilling began there in 2008.

About a dozen residents have sued Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., claiming the energy company caused the contamination when it extracted natural gas using a process known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, a method that has spurred a boom in natural gas drilling in several states while raising concerns about the toll on the environment and public health.

Cabot denies contaminating the wells, saying most wells in the region were laced with methane long before the arrival of drilling. Nevertheless, the company trucked in fresh water for the residents to use for bathing and washing clothes and dishes. The deliveries stopped Nov. 30 after state regulators determined that Cabot had fulfilled its obligations to the residents under a 2010 consent agreement. The residents say their aquifer is still contaminated.

Pennsylvania's environmental chief, who works for a pro-drilling governor, has criticized his federal counterparts, saying the EPA has only a "rudimentary" understanding of the contamination.

The federal government, meanwhile, has wavered about its role over the last two months, initially saying the water posed no health risk, then that it merited more study, then in the span of 24 hours last week promising to deliver water and reneging.

Craig Stevens, a resident of Silver Lake, near Dimock, said he called the EPA on Thursday and was told that Jackson would visit the town and would consider bringing water with her. Spokeswomen for the agency did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

In a move that was partly symbolic and partly a practical goodwill gesture, several of protesters brought with them bottles and jugs of water for the Dimock residents to take home.

"It's a ridiculous redefinition of life to have to get bottles of water and to have to live by the graciousness of others," said Victoria Switzer, a Dimock resident who sold gas drilling rights under the 5 acres she owns.
